

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
US Appln. No. 10/787,172

Q80096

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicant herewith submits five (5) new drawing sheets showing Figs. 35-39.

Attachment: Five (5) New Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 6-14 and 17-42 have been withdrawn. Claims 1, 4, 5, and 16 have been amended. Claim 43 has been added. Claims 1-5, 15-16, and 43 are all the claims pending in the application.

Drawing objections

The drawings stand objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for allegedly not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Applicant herewith submits five new drawing sheets in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a). These drawing sheets add additional Figs. 35-39 which address the Examiner's concerns. Applicant has also amended the specification in order to reference the new drawings. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added. The subject matter of the new figures finds support at least in originally filed claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 15 and 16 and in the specification at page 28, lines 18-28. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to accept the drawings and remove the objection.

Formal Matters

Claims 4, 5, and 16 stand objected to because of informalities. Applicant has amended claims 4, 5, and 16 as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the objections be removed.

Applicant has also amended claim 1 to correct an informality with respect to spelling, and not for any reasons related to patentability. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the amendment into the record.

Claims 15 and 16 stand objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) as allegedly being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Specifically, the Examiner maintains that, for example, the limitation of claim 15 “wherein said fixing unit is provided along the side extending in a direction orthogonal to the longitudinal direction of said convex lens or the longitudinal direction of said semicylindrical lens in said optical unit” allows the fixing unit to be in either direction which makes the claim more broad than the claim from which it depends. However, Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claim 15 depends from claim 2 which depends from claim 1. Claim 1 recites that the fixing unit is provided “on at least a part of an area enclosing an image display area”. Claim 2 adds the limitation that the fixing unit is provide along a side extending in a longitudinal direction of said convex lens or the longitudinal direction of said semicylindrical lens in said optical unit. In other words, claim 2 recites one part of the area on which the fixing unit is provided. Claim 15 then recites that the fixing unit is provided along the side extending in a direction orthogonal to the longitudinal direction. In other words, claim 15 adds an additional part of the area on which the fixing unit is provided. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 15 further narrows the claims from which it depends. Claim 16 recites a similar narrowing recitation. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner remove the objections.

Claim rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 3, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,500,765 to Eichenlaub. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 recites the limitation that a fixing unit is provided on at least a part of an area enclosing an image display area. The Examiner maintains that the fixing unit limitation is met by the hinge 6 which is shown in Fig. 1 of Eichenlaub and is also applied to Fig. 5. However, Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Taking Fig. 1 as an example, since it shows the hinge 6, Eichenlaub shows a display screen 12 having a boarder as one would find in a laptop. This border is represented in the figure by the white space between the edge of the display screen 12 and the edge of the first lens sheet 16. This border area encloses the first lens sheet 16 and the second lens sheet 18. The hinge is provided within part of the area of the first lens sheet 16 and the second lens sheet 18. Indeed, the Examiner will appreciate that the hinge must be so located because, for Eichenlaub's invention to work properly, the hinge must enable the first lens sheet 16 and second lens sheet 18 to mate perfectly. If the sheets are misaligned the optical properties of Eichenlaub's invention that create its utility will be obviated.

The hinge of Eichenlaub is thus not provided on at least part of an area enclosing the image display area, as required by claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over Eichenlaub,

and claims 3 and 15 are patentable based on their dependencies. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 3 and 15.

Claim rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Eichenlaub. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1, which has been shown above to be patentable over Eichenlaub. Moreover, Eichenlaub does not teach or suggest the limitation discussed above. Applicant submits that if the hinge were provided on at least a part of an area enclosing an image display area, as required by the claim, the invention of Eichenlaub would not work. For example, if the hinge 6 were placed within the border, i.e. the white space in figure 1 between the edge of display screen 12 and first lens sheet 16, the display screen 12 would not mate properly with control means 14 because a bump-out would ensue. Moreover, if the hinge 6 were “set back” into the display screen 12 so as to mate properly with control means 14, then the first lens sheet 16 and second lens sheet 18 would not mate properly. Thus, it is impossible to provide hinge 6 on at least a part of an area enclosing an image display area, as required by the claim. For at least this reason, claim 2 is patentable over Eichenlaub.

Claims 4-5 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Eichenlaub in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,410,345 also to Eichenlaub (the ‘345 patent”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 4, 5 and 16 each depend from independent claim 1 which has been shown above to be patentable over the Eichenlaub reference. The '345 patent does not cure this deficiency because the '345 patent contains no teachings relevant to a fixing unit. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 4, 5, and 16.

New claims

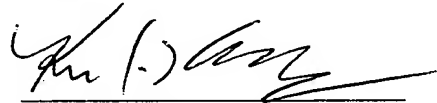
Applicant has added new dependent claim 43 to more completely claim features of the invention.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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